

Message Text

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PAGE 01 NEW DE 07271 031035Z

44

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 OMB-01 PC-05 CIAE-00 COME-00

EB-07 INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00 SIL-01 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

L-03 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 /089 W

----- 029642

R 030925Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9000

INFO AMCONSUL BOMBAY

AMCONSUL CALCUTTA

AMCONSUL MADRAS

UNCLAS NEW DELHI 7271

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB IN

SUBJECT: MAHARASHTRA STATE GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES STRIKE ENDS

FOLG SENT ACTION NEW DELHI INFO CALCUTTA MADRAS FROM BOMBAY
MAY 27 REPEATED TO YOU.

QTE

BOMBAY 1261

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB IN

SUBJ: MAHARASHTRA STATE GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES STRIKE ENDS

REF: BOMBAY 1179

1. THE 38-DAY-OLD STRIKE OF MAHARASHTRA STATE GOVERNMENT
CLERICAL AND LOWER GRADE EMPLOYEES WAS CALLED OFF MAY 26
FOLLOWING NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN REPRESENTATIVES OF MAHARASHTRA
STATE GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES CONFEDERATION (MSGEC) AND
STATE CHIEF MINISTER S.B. CHAVAN IN POONA. R. SRIRAMALU,
GENERAL SECRETARY OF ALL INDIA STATE GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES
FEDERATION, WAS ALSO PRESENT.

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PAGE 02 NEW DE 07271 031035Z

2. THE STRIKE HAS ENDED, ACCORDING TO R.G. KARNIK, GENERAL SECRETARY OF MSGEC, ON UNDERSTANDING THAT STATE GOVERNMENT ACCEPTED "IN PRINCIPLE" PAYMENT OF DEARNESS (COST OF LIVING) ALLOWANCE ON PAR WITH CENTRAL GOVERNMENT AND THAT THERE WILL BE NO VICTIMIZATION OF STRIKING EMPLOYEES. HOWEVER, CHIEF MINISTER STATED IN POONA MAY 26 THAT WHILE HE HAS NEVER OBJECTED IN PRINCIPLE TO THE PAYMENT OF (DEARNESS ALLOWANCE) RATES EQUAL TO THOSE OF THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT, "ULTIMATELY THE WHOLE THING DEPENDS UPON THE CAPACITY OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT TO PAY". R.G. KARNIK ADMITTED WHILE ADDRESSING A "VICTORY" RALLY OF STRIKING EMPLOYEES IN BOMBAY MAY 26 THAT "NOTHING CONCRETE IN TERMS OF RUPEES AND PAISE HAVE BEEN GAINED BY US. ALL THAT HAS HAPPENED IS THE VICTORY OF THE PRINCIPLE FOR WHICH WE FOUGHT, THE PRINCIPLE BEING THAT THE GOVERNMENT ACCEPTED THE SYSTEM OF PAYING DA AT CENTRAL RATES."

3. PRESS REPORTS INDICATE THAT THE STATE GOVERNMENT WILL EFFECT AN INCREASE IN DA SO THAT THE TOTAL EXPENDITURE BY STATE ON THIS ACCOUNT WILL NOT EXCEED RS.350 MILLION IN A YEAR. THIS AS THE OFFER THAT S.B. CHAVAN PREVIOUSLY MADE (SEE BOMBAY 1090).

4. THERE IS WIDESPREAD RELIEF AT THE TERMINATION OF STRIKE WHICH PARALYSED STATE ADMINISTRATION IN BOMBAY AND RURAL AREAS. WHILE IN BOMBAY THE RESPONSE TO STRIKE CALL WAS NEAR TOTAL, IN INTERIOR AREAS RESPONSE WAS LESS THAN 100 PERCENT, ESPECIALLY AFTER MAY 12 WHEN IN RESPONSE TO CHIEF MINISTER'S CALL MANY EMPLOYEES REPORTED FOR WORK. BANE UNQTESCHNEIDER

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